

## TREATMENT PROTOCOL: RADIOLOGICAL EXPOSURE

1. If radiation is suspected, confirm by using appropriate detection devices
2. If present, identify the cause of the contamination:
  - a. **Internal Radiation** (Radiation Therapy)
    - Begin treatment using appropriate treatment protocol based on complaints
    - Note:** Exposure to internal radiation poses low-to-no risk
  - b. **External Radiation**
    - Exposure through a Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD), Radiological Material Release (RMR) or Radiological Exposure Device (RED)
    - Note:** Exposure to victims from radiological dispersal devices poses low-to-moderate risk

**If External Radiation, proceed with steps 3 through 9:**

3. If MCI, begin triage (Ref. No. 519.2, MCI Triage Guidelines)
4. If a RDD is used and in the absence of any other information
  - Evacuate 1,650 feet in all directions from the detonation site then follow the Emergency Response Guidebook for other recommended scene precautions. ① ②
5. Notify: ③
  - Departmental hazardous materials (HazMat) team, if available
  - Department of Public Health (DPH) Radiation Management at (213) 974-1234, if departmental HazMat team is not available and prolonged exposures are expected
6. **ESTABLISH BASE CONTACT or**  
**IF MCI, CONTACT MEDICAL ALERT CENTER (MAC)**

LIFE THREATENING CONDITION	NOT LIFE THREATENING CONDITION	ASYMPTOMATIC AND MINIMAL EXPOSURE IS SUSPECTED
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>7. Treat using appropriate treatment protocol based on complaints</li><li>8. Remove the outer clothing and utilize contamination mitigation techniques before transport. <b>Decontaminate at scene only if it does not delay transport.</b></li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>7. Decontaminate using departmental protocols; for extremely large incidents, it may not be necessary to contain the water runoff</li><li>8. Treat using appropriate treatment protocol based on complaints</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>7. Release and issue procedure for home decontamination. Simple external radiological exposure poses low risk.</li></ol>

### SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- ① Remember the following principles:
  - Time:* limit time with the victim to a minimum
  - Distance:* the further away from the source, the smaller the dose received.
  - Shielding:* "Turnouts" will protect from alpha and beta emitters, wear respiratory protection if particulate matter (i.e., dust or powder) is present
- ② Continued close exposure of provider for greater than 15 minutes, may require dosimetry and the establishment of dose guidelines.
- ③ The HazMat team or DPH Radiation Management will be able to redefine boundaries, establish radiation dose guidelines, assist with monitoring and decontamination procedures, and provide support to on-scene responders.